

CLAIMS

1. A telecommunications system indicator and protector for indicating the working status of a telecommunications line and of equipment which can be connected to the telecommunications line, the telecommunications system indicator and protector including:
 - connecting means whereby the telecommunications system indicator and protector can be connected to the telecommunications line and the equipment respectively;
 - a line testing circuit;
 - an equipment testing circuit;
 - a switch, the switch being movable between a first position wherein the telecommunications line is connected to the line testing circuit and a second position wherein the telecommunications line is connected to the equipment testing circuit; and
 - an indicator for indicating whether the telecommunications line is in working order when the switch is located in the first position, and whether the equipment is in working order when the switch is located in the second position.
2. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to claim 1 wherein the connecting means includes an RJ11 plug.
3. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to claim 1 wherein the connecting means includes an RJ45 plug.
4. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the equipment testing circuit

-14-

includes a lightning protector for protecting the equipment against lighting surges.

5. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to claim 4 wherein the lightning protector comprises a capacitor.
6. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to either claim 4 or claim 5 wherein the lightning protector includes a fuse.
7. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the line testing circuit comprises an alternating current circuit and a direct current circuit.
8. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the equipment testing circuit comprises an alternating current circuit and a direct current circuit.
9. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the indicator is a light source which emits light to indicate that the telecommunications line is in working order when the switch is located in the first position and wherein the light source emits light to indicate that the equipment is in working order when the switch is located in the second position.
10. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to claim 9 wherein the light source is a light emitting diode.
11. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the equipment testing circuit is non-earthed.

-15-

12. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of the previous claims wherein the connecting means can accommodate a four wire telecommunications line.
13. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the switch is movable to a position wherein the telecommunication line is disconnected from both the line testing circuit and the equipment testing circuit.
14. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the connecting means can be connected to a modem, a fax machine, a telephone, a PABX system, a power dialer, an ISDN/ASDL box, an alarm and/or a remote dial-up modem.
15. A telecommunications system indicator and protector comprising:
 - connecting means whereby the telecommunications system indicator and protector can be connected to a telecommunications line and to equipment respectively;
 - a non-earthed equipment testing circuit for connecting the connecting means of the telecommunications line with the connecting means of the equipment, the non-earthed equipment testing circuit including a lightning protector; and
 - an indicator for indicating whether the lightning protector is in working order.
16. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to claim 15 wherein the lightning protector comprises a capacitor.

-16-

17. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to claim 16 wherein the capacitor is a 2kV capacitor.
18. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of claims 15 to 17 wherein the lightning protector includes a fuse.
19. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of claims 15 to 18 wherein the indicator is a light source.
20. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to claim 19 wherein the light source is a light emitting diode.
21. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of claims 15 to 20 wherein the equipment testing circuit comprises a direct current circuit and an alternating current circuit.
22. A telecommunications system indicator and protector according to any one of claims 15 to 20 including a rectifier for converting alternating current to direct current.